Visit of Iranian Foreign Minister

301. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Iranian Foreign Minister visited India recently;

(b) if so, the bilateral issues discussed;

(c) whether the issue of 22 billion dollar LNG deal was also discussed;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the outcome of the discussion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. The Iranian Foreign Minister, Mr. Manouchehr Mottaki was scheduled to visit India from 19-21 July, 2006. However, he postponed his visit due to the situation in West Asia. The visit will be rescheduled on other mutually convenient dates.

(b) to (e) Not Applicable.

Foreign Secretary's visit to Myanmar

302. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's Foreign Secretary visited Myanmar in June last to have discussions with the representatives of Myanmarese Government on matters of economic interest between the two countries;

(b) if so, the specific issues discussed between the representatives of two Governments, the decisions arrived at as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the two Governments to implement the decisions taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The discussions covered the entire gamut of India-Myanmar bilateral relations, with special emphasis on issues such as energy, trade and economic cooperation and infrastructure projects. Both countries explored ways and means to exploit the immense potential for cooperation that exists in areas such as energy and trade. It was also agreed to take expeditious steps to implement infrastructure projects.